

Phil^a Oct. 26th 1863

My dear Garrison

106 My hurried letter to you
the other day was written more
at Mr May's instance than at
my own. My main business in
funding it was, to get your mind
at work upon a programme
for our decade meeting. I now
wish to say something more, &
to do it more deliberately:

1. E. M. Davis & myself have
been appointed to co-operate with
your Board in making prepara-
tions for the meeting.

2. We have engaged for the
3rd & 4th, (in Court Hall, the best
Hall in the city, and the best
paid). We have taken the refusal
of it also for the 5th, for the
use of the Pa Assoc.

3. We have concluded, after due
consultation with others, that
there should be but two sessions
a-day, & this, from 10 A.M. to
2 P.M. & from 7 to 10 P.M.

4. We are all of the opinion that
purses should be invited by
circular, for to ensure a full
attendance of those we desire.
and we all agree that the
invitation to the meeting should
be in terms that will include
all who are members or
friends of the American Association.

Thus far by the card.
Now a little more of fug-
gestion in my own heart,
as the result of conversing
had since the ^{of the above} address by the
Committee, with R. Purvis
O. Johnson, the Motts & others.

To far as I can judge there is
an universal desire that as far
as possible by - fines should
be by - fines; and that it should
be made easy for all the
original members of the soci-
ety who have maintained
their anti-slavery interest to
be present. Of these of course
C. W. Denison is not one.

Our talk at the meeting
will be of the origin of the
society. Deeply stamped on
my mind, in ineffaceable
characters, is that meeting
at the Adelphe Building; -
with B. Green in the Chair,
and L. Tappan & J. S. Wether,
secularists, on each side of
him.

I run for Tabban pronouncing
an eulogy upon Mr L. Farnum
and suddenly brought to a close by
the announcement that the
subject of it was about entering
the Hall. I consider it due to
ourselves & the facts of history
that John S. Mather & Lewis
Tabban should be included in
the invitations to attend the
meeting. If they are neither
members nor friends of the
Society they will stand self-exclu-
ded; not kept away by any
want of courtesy or generosity
on our part.

What I said in my last
about inviting other public
-leading friends of the cause
in political or military life, I
said without much consideration
- and I do not think it a
matter of much importance. That
men like Thaddeus Stevens, an

original friend, and contributor to
the funds - of the Society and
Mr. Hickman, & Judge Kelly
— and Henry Wilson & Charles Sum-
ner & the like should be invited,
^{would} seem very natural. As to func-
tional Butler, Paul Hunter,
Paul Freeman - &c &c, I have
nothing to recommend.

Oliver Hudson, I understand,
is urging you to prepare for
the meeting some sort of docu-
ment suitable to the occa-
sion. It will be hard to set
up anything historical that
would add much to the im-
mediate interest of the
meeting. Anything of that kind
would be ~~too~~ necessary be
too long for popular effect.

at the time. I should prefer,
as easier of preparation &
better to be read, a declara-
tion or statement, in the
form of a Consubstant or
pendent to our declara-
tion of sentiment. In that
we told what we would
do; in this we could tell
what we have done. One
was an announcement
in prospect; the other would
be an announcement
in retrospect.

Our meetings would of
course be free, and we
should of course have dis-
cussions; but equally of course.

I should think there would
be no revival of any of those
old questions which our "sen-
sible" friends, and in no
wise help the common
cause.

I trust that all proper
steps will be taken to
have good speakers from
our able men & women.

I am exceedingly desirous that
our meeting should be dis-
tinguished by dignity, ear-
nestness and ability.

The small need some time
of course for social interchange
of sentiment, and perhaps
the intervals of the meetings
will not be sufficient for this

purpose. To set up a tea-party
meeting for a large heterogeneous
audience such as we naturally draw
together in this great & mixed
city, would be attended with some
difficulties, but perhaps these
would not be insurmountable. Con-
cut Hall has a Dining Room
& Gallery which could accommo-
date each 250 guests, standing.
That is 500 at one time stand-
ing around or by the side of tables,
on these tea, coffee, tongue sandwiches
& the like might be served in
an interval if ~~the~~ allowed for
that purpose, and speaking might
be in before & afterwards, or
some other plan, admitting of
both intellectual & physical
refreshment, might be adopted.
- This may be the second eve-
ning (Friday).

But I am, throughout these
things, hesitating. Think of them
& let us hear from you
Ever yours M. W. L.